

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:406

ANSWERED ON:21.08.2001

DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES IN VILLAGES

RENU KUMARI SINGH;SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 3 per cent of the budget allocation of Rs. 2000 crore in 1996-97 given to his Ministry was utilized during the first 11 months of that year for providing potable drinking water and improving sanitation conditions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this is one of the reasons for potable drinking water not reaching the villages and sanitation condition remaining poor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the availability of drinking water in all the villages and to improve the sanitation condition there?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 406 for reply on 21st August, 2001.

(a): No, Sir. It is not correct to say that only 3 per cent of the budget allocation of Rs.2000 crore in 1996-97 was utilised during the first 11 months for potable drinking water and improving sanitation. In 1996-97, against a total allocation of Rs. 1170 crores for both Rural Water Supply and Rural Sanitation together, an amount of Rs. 1035.63 crores was released during the first 11 months. During March 1997, Rs. 117.90 crores was released. The expenditure during the entire year 1996-97, as per the reports received, was Rs. 1031.25 crores.

(b)&(c): Does not arise.

(d): A Comprehensive Action Plan prepared on the basis of information furnished by the State Governments envisages to provide drinking water supply facilities to all rural habitations of the country subject to availability of funds. As far as Rural Sanitation is concerned, the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) was restructured in 1999 to promote a district-wise campaign approach which is demand-driven with increased stress on awareness building and meeting the demand with alternative delivery mechanisms. Rural School Sanitation has also been introduced as a major component and entry point for wider acceptance of sanitation by the rural people.